MEDICINE HAT

ALBERTA

"The town that was born lucky."
—Kipling.

BLOWING OFF GAS WELL AT MEDICINE HAT

¶ World's Greatest Natural Gas Belt

¶ Western Canada's Manufacturing Centre

¶ Where Factories are of more importance than realty

December, 1913

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MEDICINE HAT

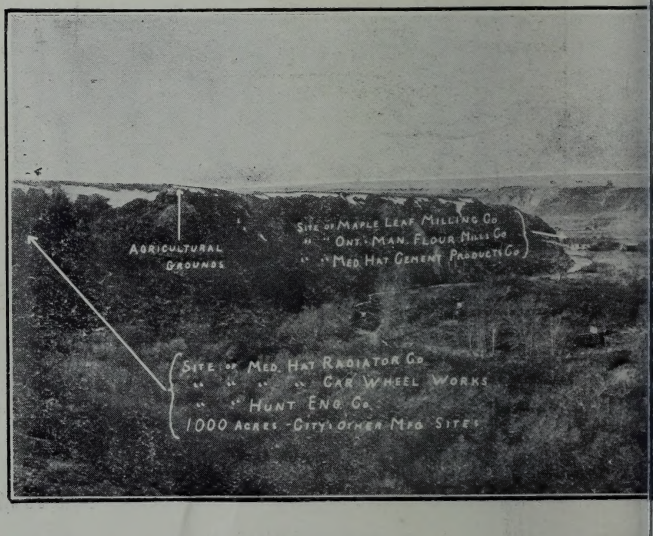
THAT "MEDICINE HAT is destined to be the largest city in Western Canada between Winnipeg and Vancouver," is a remark frequently heard from a stranger after stepping off the train here and taking time to investigate the resources and solid, substantial backing of the Manufacturing Center of Western Canada. And in this city, at least, he does not find any one to contradict him. The longer he stays here, the more the place grows on him—the more he sees that Medicine Hat is in a class entirely by itself, and cannot be judged by other places no matter where located.

Careful investigation shows him that in several particulars, at least, Medicine Hat has many advantages, any one of which would be sufficient to guarantee the growth of other places less fortunately located and blessed. Here are four particulars worthy of notice :

1.—**Power, Light and Heat**—The city controls the natural gas rights for approximately four townships, which it is conserving and using in the successful campaign for attracting industries. At 5 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, under gas engine, on a 10-hour day basis, City Engineer A. K. Grimmer is authority for the statement that *power here costs only $3.05 per h. p. per annum.* This means anthracite coal at $1.10 per ton. plus attendance costs.

2.—**Industrial and Park Sites.**—Medicine Hat owns approximately 2,000 acres of land in the city limits, which can be used for factories or other municipal purposes. This is another inestimable advantage, the value of which in years to come will be more appreciated than it is to-day.

3.—**Water and Electric Light.**—The city is now completing the expenditure of about half a million dollars on an up-to-date power and water system and filtration plant, that engineers have stated is not excelled in Canada. Generating electricity with its natural gas, the city has a power that is the acme of economy, as may be surmised. With the South Saskatchewan River flowing through the city, and pumping water from the same with the city's own power, gives Medicine Hat a


AGRICULTURAL GROUNDS
SITE OF MAPLE LEAF MILLING CO
" " ONT. MAN. FLOUR MILLS CO
" " MED. HAT CEMENT PRODUCTS CO
SITE OF MED. HAT RADIATOR CO
" " " CAR WHEEL WORKS
" " HUNT ENG. CO.
1000 ACRES - CITY'S OTHER MFG. SITES

water supply that is difficult to excell in the prairie provinces for either quality or quantity.

4.—**Location.**—Being on the main line of the Canadian Pacific and at the terminus of the Crow's Nest line; with the Canadian Northern having secured $250,000 worth of terminals and announcing the intention to build here next year; with the Grand Trunk Pacific also announcing definitely that Medicine Hat is an objective—location and transportation facilities are of the best.

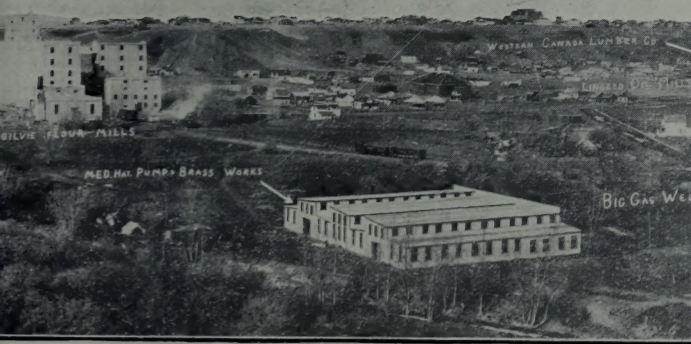
Insurance on Natural Gas

Probably the average man at a distance has heard little of Medicine Hat except possibly that it is "the place where the weather comes from"—a most erroneous idea, by the way. He may or may not know what an almost unlimited supply of practically pure natural gas at a high pressure means to a community—*especially if the supply is municipally controlled.* If not, it is worthy his careful investigation. One of his first questions naturally is "How long will it last?" In other and smaller natural gas fields the supply has been exhausted after a term of years, and he wonders what will happen in Medicine Hat when that time arrives. There are several things to be said on this point that are worth listening to:

First.—A natural gas and petroleum expert of 25 years' experience has the following to say:

"Medicine Hat possesses a store of natural gas that will not be exhausted in centuries. I base my opinion upon a comparison of the wells in the Medicine Hat district with the great wells in the Southern Ohio and West Virginia fields. The gas wells of Medicine Hat are of vast volume, and the enormous pressure of 585 pounds to the square inch is still maintained, although the daily consumption of the gas is two and a half million cubic feet by factories already in operation there. I do not think it probable that the district can be populated with enough people or factories in this century to exhaust the vast supply that is evident in Medicine Hat."

Second.—Within half a mile of the city limits of Medicine Hat is a coal mine with an estimated content of 77,000,000 tons of good lignite, that the owners have contracted to lay down in quantity for not to exceed $1.50 per ton. This is properly termed insurance on natural gas.



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Third.—As a further assurance, however, that Medicine Hat can always have cheap power, the city council is taking such steps that 20 per cent. of the net profits received from the sale of natural gas shall go into a sinking fund, to provide cheap power whenever the natural gas shall be exhausted, whether it be in fifty years or a hundred. It is estimated that this will amount to $24,000 for 1913.

When the manufacturer considers the above facts, he can but agree with Rudyard Kipling that this is a "town that was born lucky." Where in the Canadian West can a point be found that combines as many advantages for the factory men as are enumerated above ?

Origin of Name

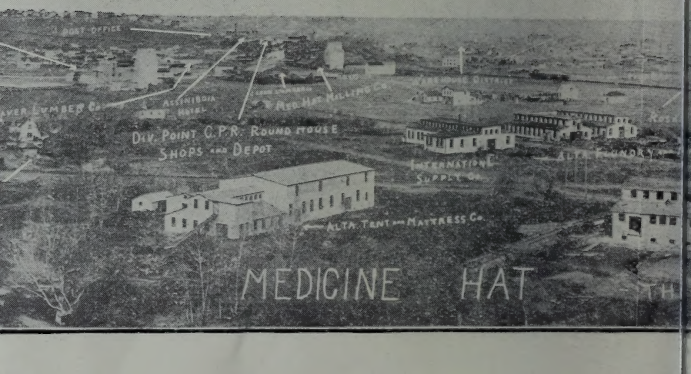
There are several theories regarding the origin of the name of Medicine Hat—a title that is distinctive and never forgotten. One is that the medicine men of the Indian tribes years ago were want to congregate here in the valley where the town was located, and administer to the afflicted red men.

Another legend has it that many years ago, the "medicine men" of two Indian tribes led their braves in a fierce battle on the shores of the river here, that one of the medicine men lost his life in the river, and that several of the tribe lost their lives in the endeavor to rescue his hat—regardless of the owner—from the river. Hence the name of the locality.

Logical Point for Factories

Not only is Medicine Hat the logical point for branch factories from Great Britain, Eastern Canada and the States, the owners of which realize the rich farming districts are fast filling up with a population that means a tremendous market right at our doors for nearly everything manufactured. As a flour milling center, the financiers who control the destinies of the great milling corporations of Canada now recognize that no point in the Dominion is so favorably situated for the erection of gigantic plants, which are now the rule in that industry when the strategic locations are found.

This is proved by the experience of the past few months, during which mills have been erected or



located here, with a minimum capacity for turning out about 7,000 barrels daily and with a maximum of 15,000 barrels each 24 hours. The growing Oriental trade, the opening of the Panama Canal and the milling-in-transit freight rate offered by the railways, have each and all operated, together with the more than favorable local conditions, to make this one of the great milling centers in the world. A saving of say ten or twenty cents per barrel, by reason of cheap fuel, is a big item when one figures in thousands of barrels daily.

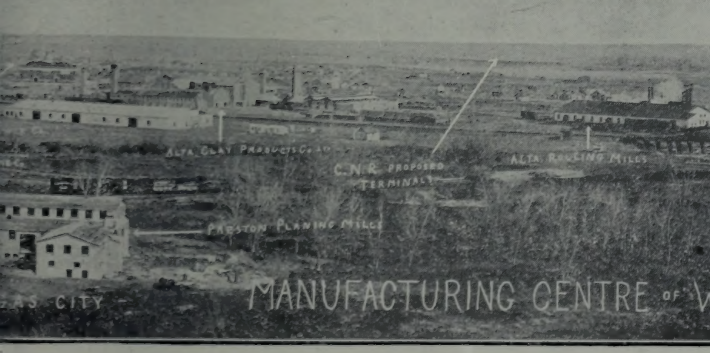
Cost and Quality of the Gas

Natural gas is sold here for domestic consumption at 13½ cents per thousand cubic feet, and for manufacturing purposes for 5 cents or less per thousand feet. It is used exclusively in Medicine Hat for cooking, lighting and heating, and coal is almost a curiosity here, it is needless to say. The entire cost for say a six-roomed house for the above purposes is from $30 to $50 per annum. In order to show how this price compares with that charged elsewhere, we append a table of prices in other places :

	Per 1000 ft.		Per 1000 ft
Medicine Hat $	**0.13 1-2**	Ottawa	$1.10
Winnipeg	1.20	Vancouver	1.15 to 1.75
Calgary	.35	Seattle	1.00
Regina	none	Spokane	1.50
Saskatoon	none	Philadelphia	1.00
Edmonton	none	New York	.80
Toronto	.60	Denver	.90
Montreal	1.05	San Francisco	.90

Frequently requests come for an analysis of Medicine Hat natural gas. Here it is :

Methane, 99.49 per cent.; hydrogen, .51 per cent.; a trace of oxygen and absolutely no moisture. Medicine Hat gas never freezes, on account of its freedom from moisture. It contains 1,100 B.T.U.'s per cubic foot—meaning that its heating power is about 50% greater than that of artificial gas. To any one sufficiently interested, the Board of Trade will forward a sample of Medicine Hat gas.



Municipal Gas Wells

To-day there are sixteen gas wells in Medicine Hat, which are in use for industrial, domestic and municipal purposes. In June, 1913, the city let a contract for drilling nine wells, several of which are completed, to keep pace with the industrial and general growth of the city.

The Medicine Hat gas strata is reached at a depth of from 1,050 to 1,200 feet, according to the contour of the surface. Rock pressure on the wells runs from 550 to 600 pounds per square inch, and the flow averages 3,000,000 cubic feet daily. Last year natural gas paid the city a net revenue of above $5 for every man, woman and child in the limits of the municipality—and the first part of the winter was mild.

Electricity

Domestic rate, per K.W. H., 8 cents—10 per cent. discount.

Commercial, per K.W. H., 6 cents—10 per cent. discount.

Power (manufacturing), per K.W.H., 6 cents to 1 cent—10 per cent. discount.

Climate

Official record of mean temperatures :

	Summer.	Winter.
Medicine Hat	**63.7**	**12.5**
Winnipeg	66.0	0.9
Regina	62.7	0.9
Edmonton	59.3	8.8
Calgary	36.9	18.05

Wholesalers

Being the distributing point for the vast irrigated land to the west, and the center of a great farming district; with a local population certain of large increase; with favorable distributing freight rates, Medicine Hat occupies a position that is attracting, and will attract, a wide variety of wholesalers.

Population

1909		3,200
1910		4,000
1911		5,750
1912	(Oct. 15)	11,086
1913	(June 26)	15,288
1913	(Dec. 1, estimated)	17,000

Building Records

Official Permits

1910		$ 205,639
1911		743,302
1912		2,836,219
1913	(10 mos.)	3,751,145

Banking Enterprises

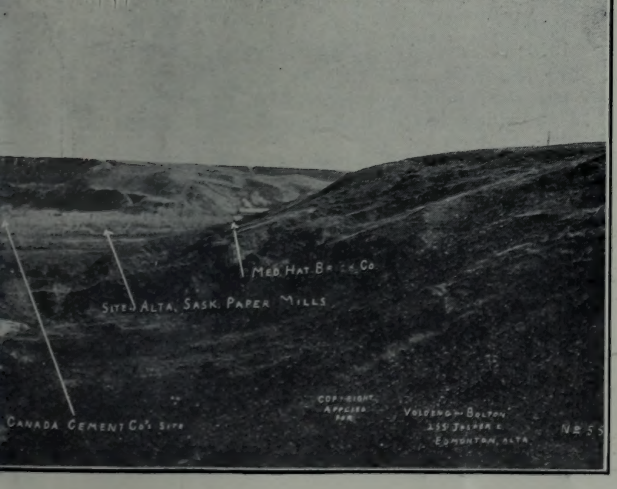
Branches of the following chartered banks are located in Medicine Hat: Merchants Bank, Bank of Montreal, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Imperial Bank, Royal Bank, Union Bank, Dominion Bank and Quebec Bank. A clearing house was established May 1, 1913.

Railways

CANADIAN PACIFIC—Medicine Hat is on the main lines, also being the junction point for Crow's Nest line and having connection with the Soo line of same company. C. P. R. has district headquarters here, covering 700 miles of track and 4,000 men. Has storage room for over 1,000 cars, large railway shops and makes car springs for the entire system, all with natural gas. Has 100 train and engine crews operating out of Medicine Hat, and a direct tributary payroll exceeding $100,000 per month. Has just built a new double track steel bridge over the river here at an estimated cost of some $500,000.

CANADIAN NORTHERN—Has purchased land in the heart of city and nearby for terminals, yards and shops costing about $250,000, and will be here in 1913.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC—Has surveyed route to Medicine Hat from the east, and will undoubtedly build and tap Medicine Hat, the new lines having both eyes on the rich manufacturing traffic that is originating here in fast increasing volume.



Economical Building

Probably no place in Western Canada can offer more reasonable rates for building materials, as the following will show :

1. Brick and hollow blocks are manufactured and sold cheaper here than elsewhere.

2. Abundance of sand delivered at about $1.00 per yard.

3. Iron and steel manufactured in this city.

4. Millions of yards of gravel, suitable for cement work, can be delivered at 75c. to $1.00 per yard.

5. Wages average about as follows : Carpenters, 50 cents per hour; bricklayers, 70 cents; plasterers, 70 cents; plumbers, 60 cents: laborers, 25 to 30 cents; painters, 50 cents; tinsmiths, 55 cents; electricians, 70 cents.

6. The building of a cement plant with 4,000 barrels a day capacity.

7. Establishment of structural bridge and iron-works this year.

Educational Facilities

Educational facilities in Medicine Hat are well lookod after by the School Board, and the growth is best shown by the appended figures :

	Schools	Teachers	Pupils
1909	2	20	909
1910	2	21	1030
1911	3	28	1205
1912	5	32	1517

School buildings are of brick, substantially built and well equipped. Every year sees new schools building, and a High School to cost $300,000 will be constructed next year.

In addition to the above there is a good business college and an excellent Catholic school.

Tax Rate and Assessment

Year	Net Mill Rate	Amount
1909	10	$ 4,134,094
1910	14	4,153,425
1911	11	4,907,560
1912	15	7,012,285
1913	13½	20,393,950

For the years 1909 to 1911 inclusive the tax rate covered land, improvements, buildings, etc. Since 1912 the single tax system has been in vogue in its entirety.

For information regarding special industrial or other opportunities write

The Secretary

Board of Trade

Medicine Hat, Alberta

The D. & A. Printing and Engraving Co., Ltd., Medicine Hat, Canada

Religious Needs

Religious requirements are well cared for in Medicine Hat, the following denominations having organizations here: Two Presbyterian, two Methodist, Church of England, Baptist, Catholic, Evangelical Lutheran, Evangelical Memorial, Salvation Army and Y. W. C. A.

The Methodists have just dedicated an edifice costing $100,000, the Church of England has moved into a structure costing $85,000, and the Roman Catholics are now spending $100,000 on new church buildings. Several other denominations are also enlarging and improving.

Street Railway

The Montreal Engineering Co. is under contract to build an up-to-date electric street railway system and expects to have several miles completed by June, 1914. Eventually the system will connect the outlying suburbs with the business and industrial districts, thus affording Medicine Hat the best possible facilities of this kind.

Wheat Raising and Farming Section

In the C. P. R. Handbook will be found the following regarding Medicine Hat:

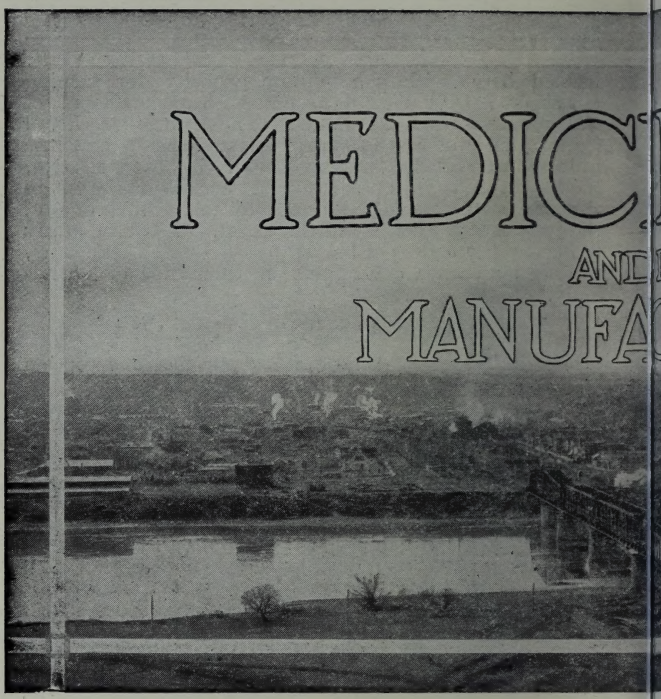
"It is situated in the valley of the South Saskatchewan, and is in the centre of a magnificent mixed farming district, a Demonstration Farm having been established here by the Provincial Government. A divisional point, with large railway shops, all operated by natural gas. An important station of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police. There is an abundance of coal all through the district, but the light, heat and power in the city is derived from natural gas. *The snowfall here is lighter and the winter shorter than anywhere else in Canada east of the Rocky Mountains.*"

West of the city a few miles lies the largest irrigated tract of land in the world. The C. P. R. has over a million acres of land, having spent millions in watering it. The Southern Alberta Land Co., with headquarters in Medicine Hat, has over 600,000 acres, on which it has spent some $3,000,000 for irrigating purposes, and which will have natural gas laid all over the tracts, for domestic use. One of the most densely populated portions of Canada will lie at the doors of Medicine Hat, when this land is settled. It is estimated that in ordinary farming one man to every 320 acres is employed, while on irrigated lands, it will be no less than one man to every forty acres. And the heads of these two great companies may be given credit for seeing that the land itself is some of the very best in Sunny Southern Alberta.

Government Crop Averages

Following are the recent averages of crop returns for the four cereal growing provinces, as given out by the Dominion government:

	Wheat	Oats	Barley
Alberta, bushels per acre	**23.05**	**50.30**	**35.50**
Saskatchewan, bushels per acre	21.49	44.44	36.30
Manitoba, bushels per acre	16.54	47.63	36.23
Ontario, bushels per acre	20.29	39.57	21.17
Average bushels per acre	21.08	40.90	26.50



Industries Established

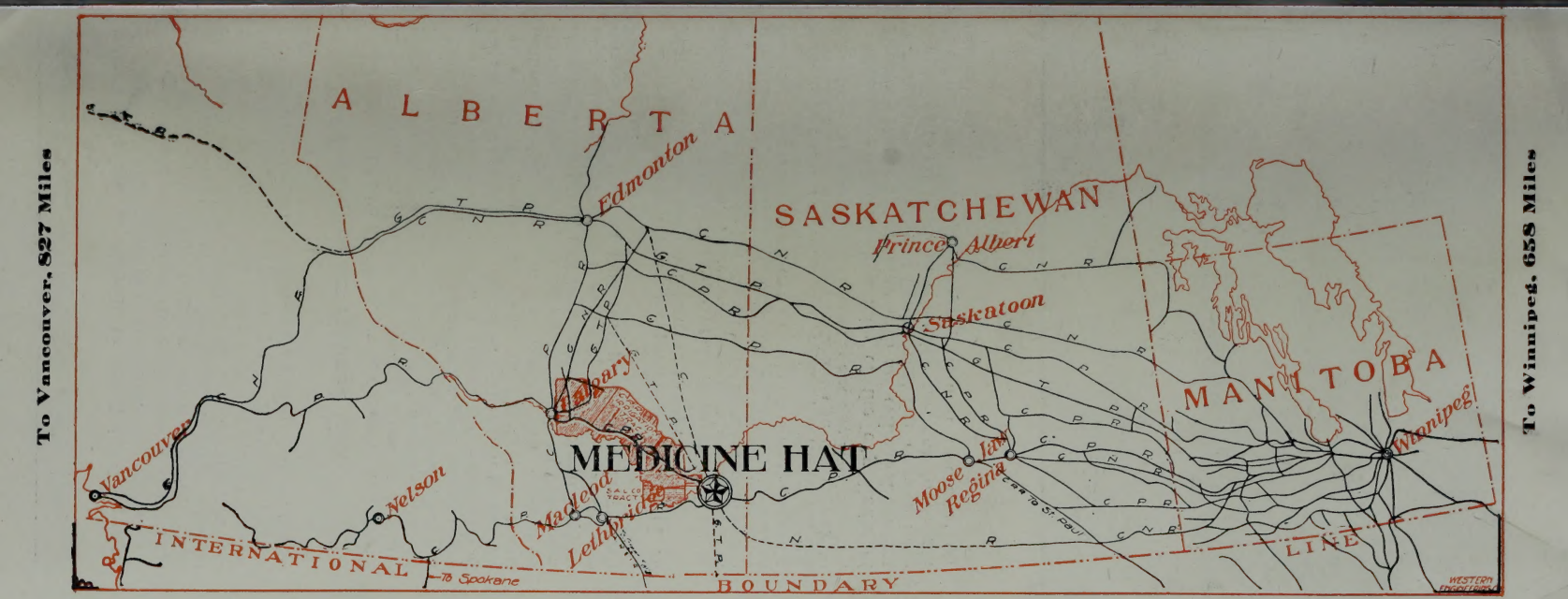
	Amount Invested	Av. No. Hands	Av. An. Payroll
Alberta Bedding Co.	$30,000	40	$40,000
Alta. Bot. & Extact Mfg. Co.	10,000	10	10,000
Alberta Clay Products Co.	500,000	200	150,000
Alberta Fdy. & Machine Co.	75,000	50	60,000
Alberta Iron Roll'g Mills Co.	150,000	100	125,000
Alberta Linseed Oil Mills	50,000	20	20,000
Industrial Iron Works	40,000	10	18,000
International Supply Co.	120,000	40	36,000
Johnston Gas Burning Lime Kiln	10,000	10	10,000
Kaiser Cigar Co.	10,000	10	10,000
Medicine Hat Brick Co.	250,000	80	100,000
Medicine Hat Coal Co.	300,000	25	27,000
Medicine Hat Milling Co.	200,000	25	25,000
Medicine Hat Planing Mills.	15,000	15	18,000
Medicine Hat Pottery Co.	150,000	50	60,000
Medicine Hat Pump and Brass Manufacturing Co.	75,000	40	35,000
Medicine Hat Steam Laundry	30,000	20	15,000
Ogilvie Flour Mills	1,000,000	100	100,000
Preston Planing Mills	50,000	50	50,000
Rosery Flower Co.	55,000	20	15,000
Standard Bottling Co.	17,000	12	12,000
Canadian Pacific Railway	———	650	1,250,000
Other small industries	———	200	200,000
Total	$3,137,000	1777	$2,388,000

Industries Building

	Amount Invested	Av. No. Hands	Av. An. Payroll
Alberta Glass Bottle Co....	$85,000	50	$50,000
Alberta Steel Products Co..	15,000	25	25,000
Canada Cement Co.....	2,500.000	700	700,000
Medicine Hat Concrete Products Company.....	25,000	20	20,000
Medicine Hat Steel Co.	250,000	50	70,000
Saskatchewan Bridge and Iron Co.	100,000	150	180,000
Western Canada Threshing Machine Co.....	100,000	50	40,000
Medicine Hat Brewing Co.	50,000	10	10,000
Total.....	$3,125,000	1055	$1,095,000

Industries Definitely Located

Dominion Sanitary Fountain Co.....	15,000	10	10,000
Great West Iron, Wood and Chemical Works.....	1,000.000	300	300,000
Maple Leaf Milling Co.....	800,000	100	100,000
Medicine Hat Radiator Co..	100,000	60	80,000
Murdock McLeod, Clothing.	25,000	30	20,000
Ontario and Manitoba Mills	600,000	80	80,000
J. H. Tabor Candy Mfg. Co.	75,000	25	25,000
Total.....$2,615,000		595	$615,000


To Vancouver, 827 Miles
To Winnipeg, 658 Miles
ALBERTA
SASKATCHEWAN
MANITOBA
Edmonton
Prince Albert
Saskatoon
Calgary
Vancouver
Nelson
Medicine Hat
Lethbridge
Moose Jaw
Regina
Winnipeg
To St. Paul
To Spokane
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY LINE
C.P.R.
C.N.R.
G.T.P.R.